

REMARKS

1. Examiner rejected claims 1-11 and 14 as being unpatentable over Benedek et al. in view of Swaim under 35 U.S.C. §103.
2. Examiner rejected claims 12 and 13 as being unpatentable over Benedek et al. in view of Swaim in further view of Hector under 35 U.S.C. §103.
3. Examiner rejected claims 15 and 16 as being unpatentable over Benedek et al. in view of Swaim in further view of Hector under 35 U.S.C. §103.
4. Applicant's invention, as recited in claims 1 and 15, has a string or array of beads that are adhered directly to the skin of the user. This allows the user to wear the beads in virtually any location on the body, such as the eyelid, arm, leg, etc. Benedek et al. and Hector are pieces of jewelry worn in the standard fashion as a necklace, bracelet etc. Swaim is a holder that has a single tacky surface, which is used to hold a discrete point of a necklace or bracelet to the user. The present invention allows for a new style of jewelry where a string of beads may be attached to the skin in swirls or other configuration depending on the desire of the user. This new style goes beyond the bounds previously set by the standard style of jewelry. Areas of the body, which were previously difficult and/or time consuming to decorate, may be quickly and easily adorned with the present invention.

This advantage is even more pronounced in embodiments using a malleable material for the strand, such as in claims 5 and 17, to string the beads. In this case, the beaded accessory may be bent into the desired shape and applied to the skin. The shaped piece may be removed from the skin while maintaining the shape for a future use or may be reformed into other shapes.

None of the references cited by the Examiner, nor any combination thereof, recite or suggest an accessory having a string of beads where the beads are adhered directly to the skin of the user. Therefore, Applicant submits that the claims are novel and nonobvious and respectfully requests allowance thereof.

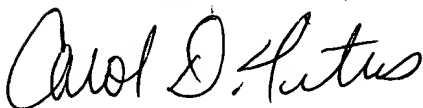
5. Attached hereto is a mark-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached section is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

CONCLUSION

For all the reasons above, Applicant submits that the claims all define novel subject matter that is nonobvious. Therefore, allowance of these claims is submitted to be proper and is respectfully requested.

Applicant invites the Examiner to contact Applicant's representative as listed below for a telephonic interview if so doing would expedite the prosecution of the application.

Very respectfully submitted,



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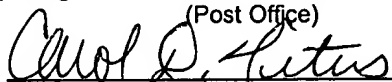
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 will be deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage at Newark, CA on February 14, 2003.

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Signature



VERSION WITH MARKING TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

1. (Amended) A beaded fashion accessory for decorating the skin and body of a user,
comprising:

a strand of material,

a plurality of beads connected with said strand of material,

and an adhesive suitable for adhering said beads and strand of material to the skin of the
user,

wherein when said beaded fashion accessory is worn by the user the adhesive connects said
plurality of beads directly to the skin of the user.